United Nations A/63/762–S/2009/141

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
16 March 2009
English
Original: Arabic

General Assembly
Sixty-third session
Agenda item 15
The situation in the Middle East

Security Council
Sixty-fourth year

Identical letters dated 12 March 2009 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I transmit to you herewith a statistical table of the violations committed by Israel by air, sea and land during the month of February 2009 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the sixty-third session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 15, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nawaf **Salam**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

09-26825 (E) 180309 180309

Annex to the identical letters dated 12 March 2009 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Statistical table showing Israeli violations during February 2009

Air violations					*Land violations*					
Military jet	*Reconnaissance*	*Helicopter*	*Total*	*Sea violations*	*Military acts of aggression*	*Field violations*	*Breaches*	*Total*	*Overall total*	*Previous month's violations*
				Crossing of territorial waters, and firing of automatic-weapons rounds, flares and flare shells over territorial waters	Air raids, artillery shelling, shelling of military positions and important posts, attacks on and killing of civilians	Gunfire, launching of flare shells, dropping of artillery shells, infiltration and crossing of international borders	Threats and display of weapons, bulldozing of soil, placing of barbed wire and setting up of installations inside Lebanese territory			
10	10	—	20	16	—	5	—	5	41	61

United Nations A/63/763–S/2009/142

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
16 March 2009
English
Original: Arabic

General Assembly
Sixty-third session
Agenda item 15
The situation in the Middle East

Security Council
Sixty-fourth year

Identical letters dated 12 March 2009 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I transmit to you herewith a statistical summary of Israeli violations committed from 14 to 28 February 2009 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the sixty-third session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 15, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nawaf **Salam**
Permanent Representative

09-26819 (E) 160309 170309

Annex to the identical letters dated 12 March 2009 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Israeli violations, acts of aggression and other activities from 17 to 28 February 2009, inclusive

Air violations

On 18 February 2009, between 1350 and 1351 hours, an Israeli enemy warplane violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Labbunah and circling over all regions of Lebanon.

On 19 February 2009, between 0645 and 1030 hours, an Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Naqurah and heading north. It overflew the regions of the South and left over Naqurah.

On 23 February 2009, at 1835 hours, two Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Ra's al-Naqurah. One released a heat balloon over Lebanese territorial waters before they both left at 1850 hours.

On 24 February 2009, between 1845 and 1920 hours, an Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering from over the sea and flying north as far as Beirut. It circled over the sea and left over the sea off Naqurah.

On 25 February 2009:

- Between 0745 and 1040 hours, an Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over the occupied Shab'a Farms and flying north as far as Jubb Jannin. It circled over the Western Bekaa then left over Aytarun.
- Between 2050 and 2155 hours, an Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering from over the sea off Tyre and flying north. It circled between Beirut and Damur and left over the sea off Naqurah.

On 26 February 2009:

- Six Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace as follows:
- At 0900 hours, four warplanes entered over Kafr Killa and circled over Beirut, the South and the Western Bekaa before leaving at 0925 hours over Rumaysh;
- At 0904 hours, two warplanes entered over Kafr Killa and circled over all regions of Lebanon before leaving at 1015 hours over Alma al-Sha'b;
- Between 0655 and 1815 hours, an Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Naqurah. It circled over Beirut, Damur and the South before leaving over Rumaysh.

Sea violations

On 18 February 2009, at 0100 hours, the Israeli enemy, from its position at Ra's al-Naqurah, directed a searchlight for 15 seconds towards Lebanese territorial waters some 300 metres north of the line of buoys. At 0140 hours, it did so again for

seven seconds; at 0345 hours it repeated the exercise for five seconds on some three occasions; and again at 2040 hours for 10 seconds.

On 23 February 2009, at 1955 hours, the Israeli enemy, from its position off Ra's al-Naqurah, directed a searchlight for four seconds towards buoy No. 5 and some 300 metres inside Lebanese territorial waters.

On 24 February 2009:

- At 1905 hours, an Israeli enemy patrol boat directed a searchlight for 30 seconds towards Lebanese territorial waters some 100 metres north of the line of buoys.
- At 1830 hours, the Israeli enemy, from its position off Ra's al-Naqurah, directed a searchlight for five seconds towards buoy No. 1 inside Lebanese territorial waters.
- At 2036 hours, an Israeli enemy patrol boat directed a searchlight for 10 seconds towards Lebanese territorial waters some 100 metres north of the line of buoys, between buoys Nos. 7 and 8.

Acts of aggression in the field

On 21 February 2009, at 0835 hours, Israeli enemy artillery fired four 155-mm artillery shells which landed on the outskirts of Qulaylah and a further four which landed on the outskirts of the village of Mansuri. That was in response to the firing by unknown persons from Qulaylah of two rockets, one of which landed inside Lebanese territory outside Naqurah, while the second landed inside occupied Palestinian territory.

United Nations A/63/764

General Assembly

Distr.: General
13 March 2009

Original: English

Sixty-third session
Agenda item 64
Promotion and protection of human rights

Letter dated 11 March 2009 from the Permanent Representative of Uzbekistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to convey to you information on the efforts of the Republic of Uzbekistan aimed at the protection and promotion of the rights of women (see annex).

I would appreciate it if you could circulate the present letter and its annex as a document of the sixty-third session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 64, "Promotion and protection of human rights".

(*Signed*) Murad **Askarov**
Permanent Representative
of the Republic of Uzbekistan

09-26656 (E) 190309 200309

Annex to the letter dated 11 March 2009 from the Permanent Representative of Uzbekistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Russian]

Efforts by the Republic of Uzbekistan to protect and promote the rights of women

From the first years of its independence, Uzbekistan began setting the main features of Government policy for preventing discrimination against women. Its policy is not to tolerate discrimination against women, since discrimination hampers participation by women, on equal terms with men, in all spheres of national life and makes it hard for them to exercise their rights and develop their potential to the full.

Women's contribution to the welfare of the family, the social importance of motherhood and women's role in procreation and child-rearing are all growing. State and society are promoting changes in the traditional role of both men and women in society and the family.

Uzbekistan has acceded to the principal international instruments regulating the principles and standards for the protection of the rights of women, including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Convention on the Political Rights of Women, the International Labour Organization Maternity Protection Convention and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, which was adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women.

The laws of Uzbekistan guarantee women the right to work on equal terms with men, as an inalienable right of all people; to equal employment opportunities; to free choice of occupation; to education; to social security in the event of retirement, unemployment, sickness or disability; to health care; and to safe working conditions.

Uzbekistan has special programmes to develop the health-care system, protect the health of pregnant women and children and raise a healthy generation. Over the years since independence, a comprehensive social support system for mothers and children has been set up. Social services and public assistance accounted for 51 per cent of total expenditures under the State budget in 2006, and in 2007 had already reached 54.3 per cent.

An institutional framework has been established to coordinate women's rights activities at the Government and local levels. The Chairperson of the Women's Committee is also a Deputy Prime Minister and the chairpersons of provincial women's committees are the deputy *khokim* (local executive authorities) of the corresponding geographical areas. The proper conditions have been created for the development of women's non-governmental organizations, which are an important element of the national system to protect women's rights.

In order to increase women's representation in Government and exercise of their political rights, a 30 per cent quota for women out of the total number of candidates for deputy put forward by political parties was established under the Oliy Majlis (Elections) Act. Two milestones were set during 2007 and 2008: for the first

time in the history of Uzbekistan, a woman was put forward as a candidate for President and a woman was elected Speaker of the lower house of Parliament.

Women occupy 15.3 per cent of senior posts in the executive, including 16.7 per cent of Cabinet Ministers, 12.5 per cent of members of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Karakalpakstan and 11.9 per cent of *khokim* (governors) and deputy *khokim*.

Women make up more than half the country's population (50.02 per cent), and 52 per cent of all women are of childbearing age (from 15 to 49 years old). The average age of women at marriage is about 20, and 60 per cent of women marry between the ages of 20 and 24. About 32 per cent of children are born to women in that age group.

Medical examinations are available for women of childbearing age at primary health-care institutions in all regions of the country, as are contraceptive methods for women in need of assistance to prevent unwanted pregnancy or practice birth spacing. The efforts undertaken have resulted in a 26 per cent decrease in maternal mortality — from 32 per 100,000 live births in 2002 to 23.8 in 2007.

Efforts to combat HIV/AIDS have been stepped up since 2000. In 2007, the Cabinet of Ministers approved the 2007-2011 strategic programme to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS.

Uzbekistan condemns violence against girls and women and domestic violence. The latter — violence committed within the family or among relatives — is regarded as a criminal offence for which various punishments are imposed under the legislation in force.

Violence against women, trafficking in women and sexual harassment are criminal offences in Uzbekistan under the Criminal Code, articles 118, 119 and 121, on offences against sexual freedom, articles 128, 129 and 131, on offences against the family, young persons and morality, and articles 135 and 136, on offences against freedom, honour and dignity; the Family Code regulates rights and obligations between spouses and those parents in relation to their children.

Special institutions have been established to assist female victims of violence, including crisis centres, hotlines, women's centres, health centres and many other social and psychological centres operating in various regions of the country.

Uzbekistan welcomes the fact that the United Nations, as the universal international organization whose authority is recognized by all States, pays close attention to the protection and promotion of the rights and freedoms of women. Thus, the issue of equal sharing of responsibilities between women and men was discussed at the fifty-third session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women in New York City. A special event was organized as part of the Commission's work in honour of International Women's Day on 5 March 2009. At that gathering, the Secretary-General condemned violence against women, stating that it is an abomination and an attack on the foundations of our civilization. He mentioned that one year ago he announced the launch of the Unite to End Violence Against Women campaign.

Such members of the United Nations as the International Labour Organization (ILO), believe that the global financial and economic crisis will cause an increase in unemployment among women. In its annual report on employment trends among

women, the ILO notes that during the current year some 22 million members of the fair sex may lose their jobs. Experts predict that in 2009 unemployment among women will reach 7.4 per cent, a record level. Among men, it will be lower, at 7 per cent. ILO experts fear that the economic crisis will cause inequality in the incomes of women and men to intensify.

The Government of Uzbekistan is taking pre-emptive measures in that area. Referring to the impact of the international financial and economic crisis and ways and means of surmounting it at the national level, President Karimov highlighted the fact that job creation and the expansion of work from home, which relies upon cooperation with industrial enterprises, are of particular importance in Uzbekistan. Accordingly, an effective, comprehensive system of incentives for both employers and the public has been established. At the present time, that way of resolving the employment problem, and of providing an additional source of income to supplement the family budget, is of tremendous social significance as a way of drawing people into productive activity, especially those from more vulnerable social groups, such as women, and in particular those with many children. In 2008, at-home workers produced goods and provided services worth $25 million.

A particularly sensitive and respectful attitude towards women, linked to a great extent to the traditions, customs and culture of the Uzbek people, serves to promote an appropriate level of protection of women's rights in Uzbekistan. The comprehensive programme to protect women's rights which the Government of Uzbekistan has been carrying out in recent years has already allowed for the appropriate and just representation of the fair sex in Uzbek society, not only in all spheres of community life and the economy, but in the legislative, executive and judicial branches of government as well. It is no coincidence that one of the most respected symbols of the capital of Uzbekistan, Tashkent, is the monument of the Happy Mother. An ordinary Uzbek woman with a kind face and happy eyes symbolizes the Homeland, life and wisdom.

United Nations A/63/765

General Assembly

Distr.: General
13 March 2009

Original: English

Sixty-third session
Agenda item 23
Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas)

Letter dated 11 March 2009 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

In accordance with instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit a copy of the note, relating to missile practice in the Falkland Islands, dated 13 November 2008, submitted by the British Government (see annex), in response to the Government of Argentina's note verbale dated 28 October 2008, which was circulated as a document (A/63/745) of the General Assembly, on 2 March 2009.

I should be grateful if you would circulate the text of the present letter and its annex as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 23.

(*Signed*) Karen **Pierce**

09-26662 (E) 200309

Annex to the letter dated 11 March 2009 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Her Britannic Majesty's Foreign and Commonwealth Office presents its compliments to the Embassy of the Republic of Argentina and has the honour to refer to Note No. 317/2008 of 28 October 2008 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship of the Republic of Argentina.

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland has no doubt about its sovereignty over the Falkland Islands, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands and the surrounding maritime areas.

The United Kingdom firmly rejects the complaint by the Government of the Republic of Argentina concerning the recent missile practice in the Port Harriet Area of the Falkland Islands. The use of this practice range is routine and such activity is not a matter that requires prior notification. The United Kingdom would like to remind the Government of the Republic of Argentina that similar routine manoeuvres have occurred on numerous occasions over the past 26 years and have never before drawn a protest from the Government of the Republic of Argentina.

The United Kingdom firmly rejects the assertion that such missile practice runs counter to the "no surprises" policy or represents an expansion of the United Kingdom's military presence in the South Atlantic. The United Kingdom scrupulously respects the "no surprises" policy at all times and remains keen to build confidence and cooperate with the Government of the Republic of Argentina, both on military matters and in other areas where we believe cooperation in the South Atlantic would be of mutual benefit.

The United Kingdom would like to take this opportunity to draw the attention of the Government of the Republic of Argentina to the recent Yamana IV exercise conducted by the Argentine armed forces in September and October of this year. In contrast to the routine nature of the missile practice referred to above, Yamana IV warranted prior notification under the "no surprises" policy. The United Kingdom regrets the decision of the Government of the Republic of Argentina not to give that prior notification. Clearly such events can only serve to damage confidence and increase tension in the region. The United Kingdom would like to take this opportunity to remind the Government of the Republic of Argentina of the importance of prior notification when conducting large-scale military exercises. The United Kingdom will continue to respect all of its obligations in this area.

The United Kingdom believes that military-to-military contact over recent years has done much to improve trust and mutual confidence between our respective armed forces. The Government of the United Kingdom would like to reiterate its commitment to maintaining these valuable links, and hopes that both countries will ensure the exchange of information to allow adequate reciprocal knowledge on military activities in the South West Atlantic.

Oversees Territories Directorate
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
London

13 November 2008

United Nations A/63/766

General Assembly

Distr.: General
13 March 2009

Original: English

Sixty-fourth session
Agenda item 104 (c)
Elections to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other elections: election of eighteen members of the Human Rights Council

Note verbale dated 30 January 2009 from the Permanent Mission of Kenya to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Kenya to the United Nations presents its compliments to the President of the General Assembly and, with reference to Kenya's candidature for membership to the Human Rights Council for the term 2009-2012 in the elections to be held in May 2009, has the honour to forward herewith, an aide-memoire in support of Kenya's candidature (see annex).

09-26575 (E) 190309

Annex to the note verbale dated 30 January 2009 from the Permanent Mission of Kenya to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

Republic of Kenya: voluntary pledges and commitments on human rights

Background

The Government of the Republic of Kenya has decided to put forward its candidature to the Human Rights Council for the term 2009-2012 in the elections to be held during the sixty-third session of the General Assembly.

Kenya attaches great importance to the promotion of and respect for human rights as universally shared principles and norms as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and relevant international human rights instruments.

The Republic of Kenya has assumed the highest international standards and is a signatory to the major human rights treaties and to most of their optional protocols and regularly submits reports on their implementation.

The major international treaties Kenya has signed include:

- International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (2001)
- International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (1972)
- International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
- Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (1984)
- Convention on the Rights of the Child (1990)
- Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (1990)
- Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

The Republic of Kenya has been actively involved in the work of the key human rights organizations. Kenya, as a member of the Commission on Human Rights in the past and in 2005, contributed to the effective establishment of the Human Rights Council.

Kenya hosts various regional and international human rights meetings and recently hosted the ninth International Conference on National Human Rights Institutions.

Pledges and commitments

In line with the noble goals to enhance the promotion and protection of human rights, the Government of the Republic of Kenya commits itself:

To further advancing human rights

At the international level

Kenya continues to play an active role in mediation and resolution of regional conflicts with the strategic objective of establishing and nurturing ideal conditions for the promotion and protection of human rights. This objective is premised on Kenya's conviction that the enjoyment of human rights can only be guaranteed in conditions of peace, security and stability.

One of the cardinal precepts of Kenya's foreign policy is that the promotion and protection of human rights must be diligently pursued in both the bilateral and multilateral frameworks. Kenya reaffirms its commitment to continue to pursue this policy in partnership with the international community.

Kenya served as a member of the Commission on Human Rights from 1984 to 1986; from 1992 to 1994; from 2001 to 2003; and in 2005, and participated actively in the transition and establishment of the Human Rights Council.

Kenya continues to work closely with the special procedures of the treaty bodies and mechanisms of the Council by inviting special rapporteurs of the Human Rights Council to visit Kenya and by extending maximum cooperation to them in their valuable work. The following special rapporteurs have visited Kenya:

- Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous people
- Representative of the Secretary-General on the human rights of internally displaced persons
- Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment
- Representative of the Secretary-General on crimes against humanity
- Special Rapporteur on adequate housing and a fact-finding mission invited in February 2008.

In line with its international obligations, Kenya has presented its initial reports to the Committee on Economic, Social Cultural Rights and the Committee against Torture (in November 2008).

Kenya embraces the principle of a universal periodic review of the human rights records of Member States. Kenya was among the first African countries to voluntarily submit itself for review under the African Peer Review Mechanism of the New Partnership for Africa's Development, which evaluates members and makes recommendations on promotion and protection of human rights, good governance, the rule of law and justice. Kenya looks forward to its review, in 2010, through the recently established universal periodic review mechanism of the Human Rights Council.

At the national level

Kenya has endeavoured to match its international legal obligations with practical strategies and action plans at the national level guided by the principles of human dignity, non-discrimination, justice and equality for all.

The constitution of Kenya guarantees a wide range of human rights and stipulates direct implementation of these rights. The judicial authority is the legal structure within which human rights are protected while the legislative authority is vested in the parliament, which has created various institutions.

- Kenya has ratified various landmark human rights instruments and regularly submits national reports to a diverse assortment of treaty bodies. Kenya is a State party to all international human rights treaties.
- Kenya has also taken a number of concrete measures to safeguard the civil and political rights of her citizens, including:
    - o The opening up to participation by the people in the democratic process.
    - o The expansion of the mandate of the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs (established in 2003) to include national cohesion in a bid to inculcate a feeling of national unity, prosperity and equitable distribution of resources.
    - o The establishment of the Kenya National Commission on Human Rights in line with the United Nations requirements. Apart from acting as a watchdog, the core mandate of the Commission is to further the protection and promotion of human rights in Kenya.
    - o The liberalization of Kenya's airwaves reflects the spirit of freedom of information and expression of opinion. Print and electronic media operators function freely without Government intervention.
    - o Active and continuous engagement with civil society on issues pertaining to Government policies on human rights, their implementation and the challenges faced.
    - o The establishment of Ministry of Gender and Children Affairs and the Ministry of Youth Affairs in recognition of the vital role that youth and women play in development.
    - o The recent challenges that Kenya has faced and their subsequent resolution bear witness to Kenya's readiness to self-evaluate and take action. The Government has been steadfast in honouring its pledge of putting the needs of the citizens of Kenya first.

The Kenya Vision 2030, recently launched by the Government, is a Government strategy paper that outlines the guiding principles that Kenya adheres to as well as its framework for the future. These guiding principles include: equality of Kenyan citizens and a secure bill of rights — a comprehensive bill of rights that covers civil rights, economic, social and cultural rights; and the rights and needs of women and children, persons with disabilities, the elderly and refugees:

- Kenya has enacted the Gender Commission Act and subsequently established a fully fledged Ministry of Gender, as well as establishing the Women's Enterprise Development Fund and the Youth Fund, concerted efforts to deal with the challenges caused by gender disparity.
- Kenya has undertaken reforms in the judicial sector to enhance equitable and timely access to justice by all. Through the governance, justice, law and order sector programme, the Government is implementing substantial reforms to

enhance integrity and accountability in the management of public resources, efficient and fair administration of justice, respect for and enforcement of human rights and the rule of law as well as to institutionalize democratic practices and nurture stable institutions of governance.

- Kenya has taken aggressive steps against corruption, including: the enactment of the Anti-Corruption and Economic Crimes Act and the Public Office and Ethics Act; establishment of the Kenya Anti-Corruption Commission; initiation of the National Campaign Against Corruption through a concerted, collective effort of the Government and civil society; and the enactment of the Public Procurement and Disposals Act. These steps are key to ensuring that public funds are safe from plunder and misuse while at the same time placing accountability at the core of utilization of public funds to ensure service delivery.

- Kenya adopted universal free primary education in 2003 and in 2008 launched free secondary education. These are initiatives towards the realization of the goal of making education accessible to all Kenyan citizens.

Within the framework of a universal health care as an integral human right, children under the age of five have access to free health care. Malaria and tuberculosis patients also get free medical treatment. Antiretroviral drugs are provided free of charge to persons infected with HIV/AIDS.

The Government of Kenya remains firmly committed to the protection and promotion of human rights throughout the world and would be grateful to receive the support of your Government in our quest for election to the Human Rights Council.